

# CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council,* August 18, 2011

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Elections, Rules, Ordinances, Orders and  
Claims

*Ordered, that*

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton Charter Review Committee, convened in April, 2010 pursuant to Chapter 22b (4) of the Ordinances, presented its final report to the City Council on April 7, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton City Council referred said report to its Committee on Elections, Rules, Ordinance, Orders, and Claims on April 7, 2011 for review and the development of a plan for the City Council to advance the final recommendations of the Charter Review Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee on Elections, Rules, Ordinance, Orders, and Claims reviewed and discussed the Charter Review Committee's Final Report at its meetings held on May 9, 2011, June 13, 2011, and July 11, 2011, and organized a June 16, 2011 presentation to the full City Council on municipal charter revision assistance by Stephen McGoldrick, Deputy Director of the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED**, that there is hereby established a Special Act Charter Drafting Committee consisting of nine members. Seven members, one from each ward of the City, shall be appointed by the City Council; and two members shall be residents of the City appointed by the Mayor. Said Committee shall draft a Special Act Charter for the City for submission to the state legislature and placement on the November 6, 2012 state ballot subject to its approval by a two-thirds majority of the City Council.

In drafting said Special Act Charter the Committee shall take into consideration and work with the recommendations contained in the March 7, 2011 Final Report of the Northampton Charter Review Committee and consult with the former members of that body as needed. The Committee shall meet in open session, hold public hearings, and shall submit its draft Special Act Charter to the City Council for its consideration no later than January 19, 2012. Upon the submission of the draft Special Act Charter to the City Council, the Special Act Charter Drafting Committee shall be dissolved. *The Special Act Charter Drafting Committee shall be extended to February 1, 2012, and then dissolved.*

In accordance with the final recommendation of the Northampton Charter Review Committee regarding a budget and consultants, the Mayor and City Council shall appropriate funding in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the purposes of entering into an intergovernmental service agreement with the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management at the University of Massachusetts Boston to assist the Special Act Drafting Committee in completing its charge. The city shall also provide the Committee with access to meeting space and administrative support as needed.